

A new Race of Sunbird from the Southern Belgian Congo.

Captain C. H. B. GRANT and Lieut.-Colonel C. W. MACKWORTH-PRAED
sent the following description :—

Cyanomitra verticalis bannermani, subsp. nov.

Description.—Differs from *Cyanomitra verticalis böhdorffi* (Reichenow) and *Cyanomitra verticalis viridisplendens* (Reichenow) in having the chin and throat duller matt metallic steel blue with greenish reflections. The bill is also shorter.

Distribution.—Southern Belgian Congo (Kayoyo, Lualaba River and Lufupa River).

Type.—In the British Museum. Male adult. Kayoyo, southern Belgian Congo, September 1, 1933. Collected by Rear-Admiral H. Lynes ; collector's no. 276.

Measurement of type.—Wing 71, culmen from base 25, tail 50, tarsus 17 mm.

Remarks.—Four adult males examined. No females or young birds examined. The three other males measure : wing 70–72, culmen from base 22–25, as against 26–29 mm. in *C. v. böhdorffi* (thirteen adult males) and 25·5–30 mm. in *C. v. viridisplendens* (twenty-six adult males).

Named in honour of Dr. D. A. Bannerman, who has remarked on the labels of these specimens that they probably represent a new race, and desires that we should give it a name.

A new Race of Green Pigeon from Northern Rhodesia.

Mr. C. M. N. WHITE sent the following description of a new race of
Green Pigeon from Northern Rhodesia :—

Vinago australis elayi, subsp. nov.

Description.—Nearest to *Vinago australis chobiensis* Roberts of western Northern Rhodesia, but with the back and scapulars dark olive-green, without the greyish wash found in *V. a. chobiensis*. Differs from *V. a. wakefieldii* (Sharpe) of coastal Kenya Colony in its larger size and from *V. a. salvadorii* Dubois in the yellower head and under surface and in the tail colour, which resembles *V. a. chobiensis*, and is not slate as in *V. a. salvadorii*.

Wing measurements.—4 males 174–180, 1 female imm. 169 mm., against 145–155 in *V. a. wakefieldii* and 155–175 mm. in *V. a. salvadorii*.

Type.—Male adult. Collected at Isoka, Northern Rhodesia on February 15, 1943, by my African collector, Kabali Muzeya. In my collection. Wing 180 mm.

Named after Mr. G. Clay, District Commissioner, Isoka, who made it possible for my collector to make a small but interesting collection at Isoka.

Material.—2 males, 1 female, Isoka; 2 males, Mpika. In addition, in studying the Green Pigeons of Northern Rhodesia I have examined the following material of these races:—

V. a. chobiensis: Chobe River, 1; Machili River, 5; Monze, 1; Lusaka, 1; Mwinilunga, 4; Kasenga, Luapula River, 1. *V. a. schalowi*: 2; *V. a. wakefieldii*: 1.

Remarks.—This new race is at present known to me from the two localities from which I have examined material; in addition, the Green Pigeons mentioned by Pitman ('Faunal Survey of Northern Rhodesia', 1934, p. 208) as seen at Kasama and Chinsali no doubt were the same race. I have so far failed to find any evidence of more than one race of Green Pigeon in any single locality, and incline to Chapin's view in his 'Birds of the Belgian Congo', vol. ii., that most of them are conspecific. The new form, whilst retaining the head, underside and tail of *V. a. schalowi* and *V. a. chobiensis*, approaches *V. delalandii* (Bonaparte) in the colour of the back and scapulars, but is darker, less yellow-green on those parts. Care should be taken in comparing Green Pigeons to ensure that comparisons are made with adult birds.

I must also thank Mr. R. Moffat, who enabled the specimens to be collected at Mpika.

A new Race of Brown-capped Weaver.

Dr. D. A. BANNERMAN sent the following note on the Brown-capped Weaver-bird inhabiting the highlands west of Kumbo, 7000–9000 ft., of the Cameroons, which he proposed to distinguish as

Phormoplectes insignis okuensis, subsp. nov.

Description.—Separable from *P. insignis insignis* on account of its darker under parts, which are dull olive-yellow instead of bright golden yellow.

Distribution.—Cameroon highlands above Oku, 7000–9000 ft.

Type.—Female. Oku, west of Kumbo, 7000 ft., Cameroon highlands, February 11, 1925. G. L. Bates collection. Brit. Mus. Reg. no. 1926.8.8.561.